Declaration of Bert Leung

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18	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, OAKLAND DIVISION	
19	CHASOM BROWN, et al. individually	Case No. 4:20-cv-5146-YGR-SVK
20	and on behalf of all similarly situated,	
	Plaintiffs,	DECLARATION OF BERT LEUNG RE:
21	v.	
22	GOOGLE LLC,	The Honorable Susan van Keulen
23	Defendant.	
24		
25		
20		

Case No. 4:20-cv-03664-YGR-SVK

1	I, Wing Pan "Bert" Leung, declare as follows:
2	1. I am currently a Software Engineer, tech lead, and manager for Ads Identity &
3	Infrastructure at Google and have been employed at Google for the past eight years. As a result of
4	my role and responsibilities, I am familiar with signals sent from Chrome browsers to Google in ad
5	requests, as well as a
•	Except where otherwise indicated, I make this declaration based
7	on my own personal knowledge and could competently testify thereto.
8	2. I received a litigation hold for this matter on December 15, 2020.
9	3. In 2019, I worked with Chris Liao on a project to
	This
11	was related to Google's
	:. (A "signal" is information sent from
14	the browser for a dedicated purpose.) Therefore,
18	4. There are two primary hurdles with inferring Incognito mode traffic from the absence
19	of the X-Client-Data header, which I discuss in turn below.
20	5. First, assuming one has accurately identified all Chrome traffic,
	Therefore, relying on the X-Client-Data header in Chrome traffic to indicate Incognito mode
23	will erroneously count traffic from non-Incognito sessions as traffic from Incognito sessions.
24	6. Second, this heuristic relies on being able to accurately identify all Chrome traffic.
25	

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The X-Client-Data header is only sent from Chrome browsers; other browsers will not send an X-
Client-Data header. It is therefore necessary to isolate Chrome traffic from all of the other browser
traffic that does not include X-Client-Data header. Another header, the user-agent header, is used
to determine whether a request came from a Chrome browser. Unfortunately, however, the user-
agent is one of the easiest HTTP headers to spoof and manufacture. Therefore, this method will
falsely count all traffic coming from browsers in which the user-agent has been altered to indicate
it is coming from a Chrome browser. Altering user-agent is not a theoretical concern. Apple's Safari
browser has a built-in feature that permits users to spoof a Chrome user-agent and there are Mozilla
Firefox add-ons that fulfill the same function.
7. I understood then, and understand now,
8. In May 2020, my supervisor Chris Liao tasked Mandy Liu and myself with using the
same heuristic-based ¹ method to approximately infer Chrome Incognito traffic using the X-Client-
Data header and In particular, we sought to
Like earlier
efforts in 2019, the needed only a
9. I approved that an output of our project would be a
¹ In computer science, we refer to such an approximate trial-and-error method as a "heuristic."

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